

DOCKET NO.: H0075.70099US00

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Berthold Leimbach  
Serial No.: 10/507,075  
Confirmation No.: 4427  
Filed: September 9, 2004  
Intern. Appln. No.: PCT/EP03/02319  
Intern. Filing Date: March 6, 2003  
For: TRIPOD HEAD, IN PARTICULAR CAMERA TRIPOD HEAD

Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Art Unit: Not yet assigned

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 31st day of May, 2005.

*Doris A. Champagne*  
Doris A. Champagne

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MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case. No fee or certification is required.

PART II: Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

The Applicant would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the enclosed search report dated June 17, 2003 from corresponding International Application No. PCT/EP03/02319.

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PART III: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

GB 2 231 548 is an English language equivalent of DE 39 08 682. US 4,113,215 is an English language equivalent of DE 27 01 520. U.S. 4,447,033 is an English language equivalent of DE 30 26 379. U.S. 4,226,303 is an English language equivalent of DE 26 57 692. An English language abstract is provided for DE 24 57 267. An English language abstract is provided for DE 37 39 080.

PART IV: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

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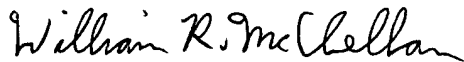
Art Unit:

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Berthold Leimbach, Applicant*

By:



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Docket No.: H0075.70099US00  
Date: May 31, 2005  
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FORM PTO-1449/A and B (Modified)  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				APPLICATION NO.: 10/507,075 I.A. No.: PCT/EP03/02319		ATTY. DOCKET NO.: H0075.70099US00	
				FILING DATE: 09/09/04 I.A. Filing Date: 03/06/03		CONFIRMATION NO.: 4427	
				APPLICANT: Berthold Leimbach			
				GROUP ART UNIT: unk.		EXAMINER: Not yet assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1				

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code		
		4,113,215		Stapleton	09-12-1978
		4,226,303		Thoma	10-07-1980
		4,447,033		Jaumann et al.	05-08-1984
		6 328 487	B1	Guido Cartoni	12-11-2001

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document (not necessary)	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Translation (Y/N)
		Office/ Country	Number	Kind Code			
		DE	37 39 080	A1	Otto Stemme	05-11-1989	Abstr.
		DE	39 08 682	A1	Sachtler AG - Kommunikationstechnik	10-04-1990	Equiv.
		GB	2 231 548		Sachtler AG - Kommunikationstechnik	11-21-1990	
		GB	2 189 042		W. Vinten Ltd.	10-14-1987	
		DE	27 01 520	A1	W. Vinten Ltd.	07-21-1977	Equiv.
		DE	30 26 379	A1	Sachtler GmbH Filmtechnische Geraete	02-04-1982	Equiv.
		DE	24 57 267	A1	Georg Thoma	06-10-1976	Abstr.
		DE	26 57 692	A1	Georg Thoma	06-22-1978	Equiv.

**OTHER ART — NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS) title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, relevant page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation (Y/N)
		Search Report dated June 17, 2003 for International Application No. PCT/EP03/02319	

EXAMINER:	DATE CONSIDERED:
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#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

\*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. \_\_, filed \_\_, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

[NOTE - The Office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003. See 37 CFR 1.491(b). For all patent applications filed on or before June 30, 2003, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are still required unless an eIDS is filed. Copies of all other patent(s), publication(s), or other information listed must still be provided, even if it was previously submitted to, or cited by, the U.S. Patent Office in an earlier application, unless the earlier application is identified by the IDS and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120, and the copy was provided in the earlier application.]